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## Small Business Week 2005 Award Winners at *Celebrate Success Awards Luncheon*



*Left to right: Joseph Riley, Dina Chu, Jay Pateakos, Sergio Rivera, Jr., Amy Zuckerman, Tyler Young, Fred Curtis, Jr., Geraldine Cross, Siamak Taghaddos, David Hauser.*

More than 300 small business leaders convened at The Beechwood Hotel in Worcester for SBA's annual *Celebrate Success* awards luncheon on June 10, 2005. Each of the winners accepted their awards from SBA's Massachusetts District Director Moe Dube and SBA's Office of Advocacy's Chief Economist Chad Moutray.

Two successful small business workshops and SBA's quarterly partners' meeting were held prior to the main event. (More information and photos on awards' day inside.)



Moe Dube, SBA Massachusetts District Director, presents Joan Medeiros, Vice President, Fall River Five Cents Savings Bank, with SBA's *Lender of the Quarter Award*.

## Photos from Small Business Week 2005

Chad Moutray, SBA's Chief Economist, far left, and Moe Dube, SBA Massachusetts District Director, far right, present awards to this year's small business winners:



### Small Business Person of the Year

Fred J. Curtis, Jr.  
President & CEO  
Curtis Tractor Cab, Inc.  
Worcester

Business: Manufacturer of tractor and utility cab enclosures, plows, sanders and spreaders.



### Financial Services Champion

Joseph F. Riley  
Senior Vice President  
Small Business Banking  
Eastern Bank  
Lynn



### Jeffrey H. Butland Family-Owned Small Business

Tyler F. Young  
President & CEO  
W.F. Young, Inc.  
East Longmeadow

Business: Fourth generation virtual marketing company that supports a network of popular brands for animals and humans – invented Absorbine and Absorbine, Jr.



### Young Entrepreneurs

Siamak Taghaddos & David Hauser  
Co-Founders  
GotVMail Communications, Newton

Business: offers small and home-based businesses and mobile professionals the industry's most advanced suite of virtual, on-demand voice communications services.



### Woman-Owned Business

Geraldine Cross, d/b/a Griffin Tire & Battery  
Griffin Tire & Battery  
Springfield

Business: Fleet remarketing firm for government and private sector entities.

## Photos from Small Business Week 2005

Chad Moutray, SBA's Chief Economist, far left, and Moe Dube, SBA Massachusetts District Director, far right, present awards to this year's small business champion winners:



**Home-Based Business Champion**  
New England & Massachusetts  
Amy Zuckerman, Founder  
Hidden-Tech  
Amherst



**Veteran Small Business Champion**  
Louis Celli, Jr., Founder  
The New England Veterans Business  
Resource Center  
Boston



**Women in Business Champion**  
Dina Chu, Chair of the Board  
The Center for Women & Enterprise  
Boston



**Minority Small Business Champion**  
Sergio Rivera, Jr., Publisher/Editor  
Vocero Hispano Newspaper  
Worcester



SBA's Moe Dube thanks the event's emcee John DiPietro of Worcester-based Advanced Business Concepts DiPietro.



**Small Business Journalist**  
Jay Pateakos, Business Reporter  
Fall River Herald News  
Fall River

## SBA's Office of Advocacy's Chief Economist Addresses SBA Lenders & Resource Partners at Small Business Week 2005 Celebration



*Moe Dube, right, SBA District Director, thanks SBA's Chief Economist Chad Moutray.*

### ***It's Your Business Volume VI Number 6***

*A monthly publication by  
the U.S. Small Business  
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Massachusetts District  
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Chad Moutray, the chief economist for SBA's Office of Advocacy, addressed more than 70 SBA participating lenders and resource partners at the SBA's quarterly partners' meeting in Worcester on June 10. Moutray spoke about a number of issues that are important to the small business community, including:

How is the economy doing right now for small businesses?

- According to Moutray, the real GDP increased 3.5 percent last quarter, somewhat less than in previous quarters. Two components of the GDP account for some of the problem: high energy costs and the decrease in real personal consumption expenditures and real gross capital spending.
- Small business owner and consumer optimism have weakened from the highs in 2004.
- The unemployment rate fell to 5.1 percent last month while the economy has added 898,000 new jobs so far in 2005.
- Incorporated self-employment has grown to 5.4 million up 500,000 for the year. Each industry except for manufacturing has contributed to these gains.
- Interest rates continue to increase as policymakers try to dampen inflationary pressures. The prime lending rate is now 6.0; the 2004 average was 4.3 percent.
- The average price of West Texas crude oil reached \$54.31 a barrel in March, almost \$11 more than the December 2004 average. Between December 2004 and March 2005, consumer prices rose an annualized 4.25 percent, with 1.37 percentage points of the rise attributable to energy costs. Producer prices followed a similar pattern.

Moutray also spoke about most economic growth coming from innovation and the importance of government-university-business partnerships which promote entrepreneurship. Finally, he spoke about how technology, regulation and consolidation will change the environment for small business lending.

## Two successful Workshops Held in Worcester on June 10

Prior to the annual *Celebrate Success* awards luncheon, Lisa Gonzalez Welch, SBA economic development specialist, presented a *SBA Programs & Services* workshop to a full room. SBA offers this workshop, which focuses on our loan, technical assistance and government contracting programs, throughout Massachusetts.

Shari Worthington, president of Telesian Technology, presented a workshop entitled *From Search Engines to B-Blogs: What's Working in E-Marketing*. Worthington, who has over 20 years experience in developing innovative marketing and e-business programs, spoke about the latest e-marketing tools, from e-mail to search engines to b-blogs and how the Internet has evolved into a sophisticated marketing tool. Worthing is also an international speaker on the topics of guerilla marketing, e-business, and e-marketing, and is co-author of "e-Business in Manufacturing: Putting the Internet to Work in the Industrial Enterprise."